What is claimed is:

1.   A method comprising:

accepting a segment of data from a host system, a portion of the segment identifying a broadcast domain;

comparing the portion with an identifier for a selected broadcast domain; and

filtering the segment from a network connection based on the comparison.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the host system comprises a computer system having a protocol stack configured to generate data packets.

3.   The method of claim 2 wherein the segment of data comprises a frame including one of the data packets.

4.   The method of claim 3 wherein the portion comprises a VLAN ID.

5.   The method of claim 4 wherein the VLAN ID is configured according to an IEEE 802.1Q VLAN protocol.

6.   The method of claim 4 further comprising generating the VLAN ID based on a network address.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion corresponds to the identifier.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion does not correspond to the identifier.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the filtering comprises blocking the segment from being transmitted over the network connection.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the filtering comprises intentionally corrupting the segment so that the segment is discarded from traffic received over the network connection.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system after a boot phase.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein the segment is accepted from the host system over a data bus.

14. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

accepting a second segment of data from a physical layer network interface, a portion of the second segment identifying a broadcast domain;

comparing the portion of the second segment with an identifier for a broadcast domain associated with the host system; and

sending the second segment to the host system if the portion of the second segment corresponds to the identifier for the broadcast domain associated with the host system.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the identifier for the broadcast domain associated with the host system is inaccessible by the host system.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the identifier for the broadcast domain associated with the host system is inaccessible by the host system after a boot phase.

17. An apparatus comprising:

an interface to establish a network connection;

a network controller configured to

accept a segment of data from a host system, a portion of the segment identifying a broadcast domain;

compar the portion with an identifier for a selected broadcast domain; and

filter the segment from the network connection based on the comparison.

18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the host system comprises a computer system having a protocol stack configured to generate data packets.

19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the segment of data comprises a frame including one of the data packets.

20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the portion comprises a VLAN ID.

21. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion corresponds to the identifier.

22. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion does not correspond to the identifier.

23. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the filtering comprises blocking the segment from being transmitted over the network connection.

24. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the filtering comprises intentionally corrupting the segment so that the segment is discarded from traffic received over the network connection.

25. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system.

26. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system after a boot phase.

27. A system comprising:

a host system;

an interface to establish a network connection between a network and the host system; and

a network controller configured to

accept a segment of data from the host system, a portion of the segment identifying a broadcast domain;

compare the portion with an identifier for a selected broadcast domain; and

filter the segment from the network connection based on the comparison.

28. The system of claim 27 further comprising a management system having a protocol stack configured to generate management packets.

29. The system of claim 27 wherein the host system comprises a computer system having a protocol stack configured to generate data packets.

30. The system of claim 28 wherein the segment of data comprises a frame including one of the data packets.

31. The system of claim 29 wherein the portion comprises a VLAN ID.

32. The system of claim 27 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion corresponds to the identifier.

33. The system of claim 27 wherein the segment is filtered from the network connection if the portion does not correspond to the identifier.

34. The system of claim 27 wherein the filtering comprises blocking the segment from being transmitted over the network connection.

35. The system of claim 27 wherein the filtering comprises intentionally corrupting the segment so that the segment is discarded from traffic received over the network connection.

36. The system of claim 27 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system.

37. The system of claim 27 wherein the identifier is inaccessible by the host system after a boot phase.

38. A system comprising:

a router;

a host system;

an interface to establish a network connection between the router and the host system; and

a network controller configured to

accept a segment of data from the host system, a portion of the segment identifying a broadcast domain;

compare the portion with an identifier for a selected broadcast domain; and

filter the segment from the network connection based on the comparison.

39. The system of claim 38 wherein the portion comprises a VLAN ID.